

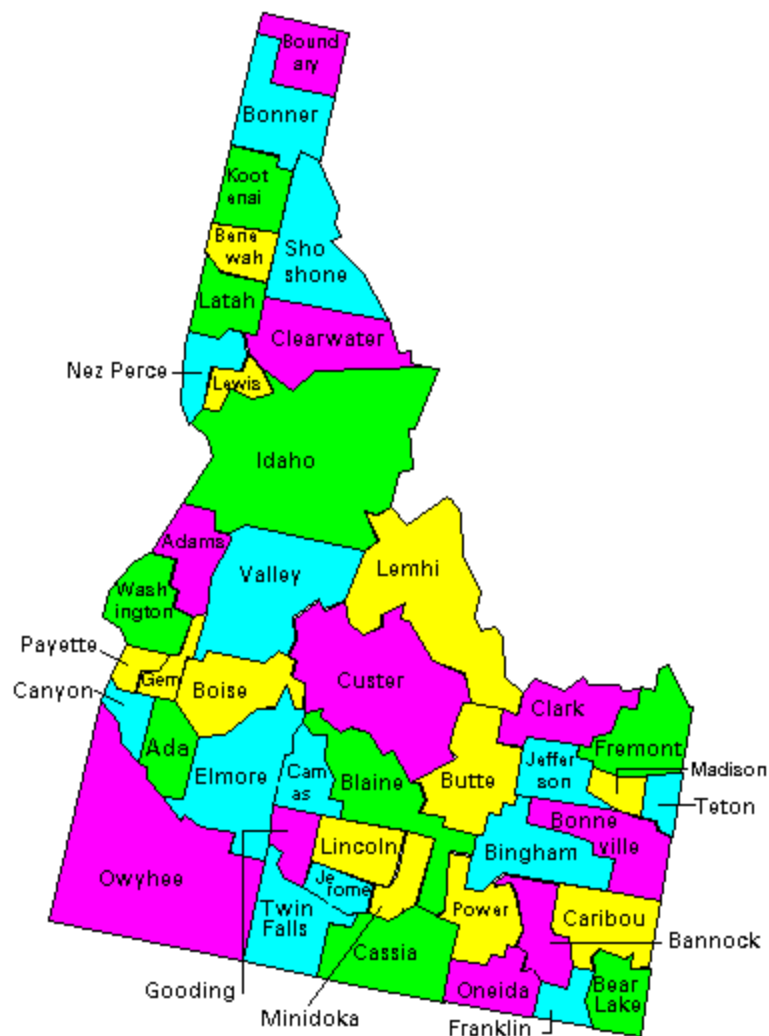
Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

Boise, Idaho

Profile of Drug Indicators

December 2000



ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

Boise

The following profile contains information on demographics, political figures, programs, crime, drug use, drug trafficking, and enforcement statistics.

Demographics¹

- Population: 170,327

Politics²

- Mayor: H. Brent Coles
- City Council: Carolyn Terteling (Council President), Jon Mason, Sara Baker, Jerome Map, Paula Forney, Mike Wetherell
- Chief of Police: Donald G. Pierce

Programs/Initiatives³

- In FY 1998 ONDCP awarded \$99,968 to the Treasure Valley Drug and Alcohol Coalition in Boise, Idaho. Treasure Valley consists of Ada, Canyon, and Boise counties in southern Idaho. The Coalition's project goals include: 1) Providing prevention education about substance abuse to businesses, youth, and families; and 2) developing early intervention efforts, including after school programs and scholarships for social activities. Project activities will include: Working with the juvenile court to provide family substance abuse treatment for parents and youth identified with drug and alcohol problems and prevention education for at-risk youth. Focusing on youth who have been suspended or expelled from school. Identifying community organizations to work in neighborhoods with high crime rates. Developing a prevention media campaign. Establishing relationships between schools, health and welfare agencies, law enforcement, and recreation and parks to develop after school programs for middle school students.

Crime and Drug-Related Crime⁴

- The number of offenses decreased in Boise from 8,626 in 1998 to 7,811 in 1999.

Number of Offenses in Boise, ID 1998-1999

Offense	1998	1999
Murder	3	2
Rape	76	75
Robbery	64	67
Aggravated Assault	434	358
Burglary	1,386	1,291
Larceny-Theft	6,215	5,633
Vehicle-Theft	377	336
Arson	71	49
TOTAL PART I CRIMES	8,626	7,811

- From January through November of 2000 arrests for methamphetamine-related offenses are second only to marijuana arrests in Boise.

Drug Arrests in Boise, ID 1996-2000

Drug Type	Offense		1996	1997	1998	1999	*2000
Amphetamines (Meth)	Possessions		258	409	287	275	271
	Sale		12	22	11	16	47
	Manufacturing		3	4	23	28	14
Barbituates	Possessions		2	4	0	1	0
	Sale		0	0	1	0	0
Cocaine	Possessions		36	19	26	17	12
	Sale		4	11	4	13	7
Hallucinogens	Possessions		32	38	16	21	8
	Sale		0	1	3	2	0
Heroin	Possessions		21	16	23	22	9
	Sale		0	0	4	4	2
Marijuana	Possessions		689	721	569	572	484
	Sale		2	15	4	18	39
	Production		13	13	16	11	9
	Smuggling		3	0	2	0	0
Opium	Possession		2	1	2	1	3
Other	Possession		31	40	38	45	35
Paraphernalia	Possession		876	929	726	736	705
TOTALS			1,984	2,243	1,755	1,782	1,645

*2000 figures are January - November 30th, 2000

- B.A.N.D.I.T. (Boise Area Narcotics and Drug Interdiction Task Force)
The BANDIT Task Force investigates gambling, prostitution and illegal drug use. The Task Force includes Detectives from the police departments of Boise, Meridian and Garden City, along with the Idaho National Guard, working as part of the multi-jurisdictional task force called BANDIT, commissioned to protect the community from illegal drug activity. Methamphetamine and marijuana continued to be the most-

abused drugs in Boise during 1999. Heroin also increased in the area but not to the extent of methamphetamine.

Diverted Drugs

Pharmaceutical drug diversion is the practice of diverting legitimate controlled-substance medications to illegal use or distribution. BANDIT focuses primarily on diversion by healthcare providers who prescribe medications fraudulently and on the more prolific abusers. Each investigation typically involves hundreds of felony crimes averaging 30 to 40 investigative hours each. In 1999 a four-year investigation ended with the closure of one Boise-based pharmacy and distribution company, as well as the seizure of related businesses in Boise, Colorado, Utah and Texas.

Meth Labs

In 1999 BANDIT obtained additional equipment to fight the growing methamphetamine laboratory (clandestine or clan lab) problem. The equipment provides ways to investigate clan labs effectively and safely. Also, BANDIT gave educational classes to area law-enforcement agencies, the Idaho State Prosecutor's Association, Idaho Correctional Officers Association and civic and business groups throughout the Treasure Valley. Education increased the community's knowledge about methamphetamine labs and the drug problem in general, and helped BANDIT combat illegal drugs and use.

Other Programs

Another improvement for BANDIT during 1999 was training and qualifying a narcotics detective as a Certified Computer Forensic Investigator. Having a certified investigator increased our ability to investigate drug crimes where computer use has become common. Other units of the BPD use the investigator routinely because of the widespread use of computers in all kinds of criminal activity.

BANDIT worked effectively with the Boise Police Department's Community Oriented Policing Unit, Patrol Division and other sections of the Criminal Investigation Division to combat illegal drug activity in the greater Boise area., as well as in Garden City and Meridian. BANDITS also used its expertise with clan labs, covert electronics, computer forensics, drug K-9 and undercover operations to train and help other law-enforcement agencies throughout Idaho.

The Narcotics Unit is part of Strategic Enforcement for Crime-Free Housing in Urban and Rural Environments (SECURE), a community-oriented government community committee Mayor Brent Coles established to fight the rise in methamphetamine labs. SECURE will provide and maintain safe housing in the Boise area by reducing the number of clan labs operating in the City. SECURE includes an educational section and an ordinance that will give the City a way to shut down residences used on a habitual basis for drug activity, providing additional tools to ensure the safety of all citizens.

Sources

¹ City of Boise Web site: <http://www.ci.boise.id.us/default.asp>

² Ibid.

³ Drug-Free Communities Web Site: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/dfcs/index.html>

⁴ Boise Police Department Web site: <http://www.ci.boise.id.us/police/default.asp>

This State Profile was prepared by the ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse is funded by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and is a component of the [National Criminal Justice Reference Service](#). For further information concerning the contents of this profile or other drug policy issues, contact:

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